HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE OF STARK COUNTY (HCCSC)
Systems Performance Committee (SPC)
Tuesday, July 21, 2020
9:30 a.m. via Zoom

Members Present	SHNI Staff	Members Not Present
Lisa Snyder	Marcie Bragg	Lisa Waikem
Jennifer Keaton		Allison Esber
Julie Sparks		Duane Wykoff
Beverly Lewis		Melissa Terrell
Shannon McMahon Williams	**Guests**	
Renee Biggums	Dionna Stokes-Ellis	
Danelle Lightner	Tiffany Ford	
Shirene Starn-Tapyrik		

I. Welcome and Introductions

Marcie Bragg, committee chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Marcie informed the committee that the Zoom meeting is being recorded due to Melissa being on vacation and the recording will be provided to her to convert into meeting minutes.

Marcie indicated that it's been a while since the last SPC meeting. However, the timing to get together to look at data is extremely important. The SPC meeting discussion will focus on Racial Equity. The SPC will review Racial Equity data that was pulled from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and input into a Racial Equity tool created by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH).

There is a Racial Equity Committee (REC) that was meeting prior to the COVID19 pandemic, but the committee has not met within the past few months. There are several REC members that also sit on the SPC with the exception of two REC members. Marcie invited the remaining REC members to join the SPC meeting for today's discussion. The guests joining the SPC meeting are Dionna Stokes-Ellis of Alliance for Children and Families and Tiffany Ford of the YWCA. Marcie provided an opportunity for the guests to introduce themselves to the SPC members. Dionna Stokes-Ellis is the Housing Director for Alliance for Children and Families (ACF) and works with the permanent supportive housing projects. Lisa Snyder provided the SPC members with an introduction to Tiffany Ford; Tiffany Ford has worked for the YWCA for the past six years and is a rapid rehousing (RRH) Case Manager.

In the past SPC meetings, the SPC has discussed System Performance Targets, but with the pandemic there may not be enough information to set targets and the discussions may have to be pushed back for the time being. Marcie indicated that we know that there is an emphasis on Racial Equity and wants to ensure that our community is providing housing and services to all participants in an equitable way. The first step is to look at the racial demographic breakdown for homeless system performance outcomes.

II. Discussion of Regina Cannon's Presentation

Marcie provided a link to Regina Cannon's Racial Equity presentation to committee members last week via email. Marcie asked committee members for any takeaways from the presentation. Jennifer stated that Regina provided the clearest and most understandable explanation of the issues and how we can react as a community. Danelle provided that Regina's explanations were relatable and her comments on how we can react are doable. Danelle stated that a specific takeaway was the goal setting and focusing on smaller goals for the most marginalized.

At this time, Shirene entered the meeting.

Marcie discussed a few of her takeaways from the presentation that included the goal to achieve better outcomes for all while addressing factors that attribute to racial inequity. If we build an assessment and prioritization system for the most marginalized then everyone will benefit. Marcie also pointed out the need to look at assessment processes that are not solely focused on majority groups and the need to gain qualitative information from minority groups.

III. Review of HCCSC Racial Equity Data & Suggested Next Steps

Marcie discussed that the Racial Equity tool provided by the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) that HUD technical assistance providers have recommended. Marcie displayed the tool for SPC to view and discuss. Jennifer led the discussion. The first discussion was the percentage of those who experience homelessness according to our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) broken down by race. The percentage of the African American population who experience homelessness is disproportionate compared to the overall percentage of African Americans in Stark County. The second discussion was on the total number of those who are connected to "crisis housing" (emergency shelter). The percentage of those who were connected with "crisis housing" that were white was the same percentage that experienced homelessness; other populations had slightly different outcomes. The third discussion was on permanent housing and recidivism. A higher number of those that are retuning are minorities, except in the Hispanic population. There were two factors discussed 1) what's bringing people into the system and, 2) why are people returning to the system. The percentages related to access within the homeless system appears to be equitable while entrance into the system and returns to the system appear to be unequitable. Marcie discussed that the data utilized in the tool came from of CoC system performance numbers because this data reports on individuals rather than households. The STELLA tool that HUD provides looks at households and it makes more sense to utilize numbers based on individuals.

Marcie displayed the SYSTEM PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Racial Equity Data Discussion – Notes document for everyone's view. Marcie began the discussion by talking about what happens prior to entering our system; how emergency assistance and homeless prevention dollars are being utilized before someone enters into the system. Stark County received funding from the Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) for homeless prevention and emergency rental assistance. This funding requires that Continuums track this funded activities in an Excel spreadsheet "Tracking Tool". The "Tracking Tool" will allow us to assess equity of the assistance provided as well as a better understanding of those who are being connected with homeless prevention. Marcie suggested that with the new dollars, we should break down the racial demographics from intakes completed, households placed on prioritization list, completion of project intakes, dollar amount of assistance, and recidivism.

Discussion: SPC members stated that by utilizing the "Tracking Tool" this is a great way to look at a smaller population. A question was posed for the length of time from assessment to assistance and whether or not this varies across racial demographics. SPC members also discussed the family size and if the data varies based on household size in relation to racial equity in receiving assistance. Mental health tracking should be done because there may be minority populations that are undercounted, but if not self-identified, there is no way to track this information. There was also mention that African American women are overcharged for rent in communities and this should be noted when placing people into housing with private landlords.

The section on the right of the document was pulled from Regina's presentation and is looking at existing data, such as length of time from assessment to lease-up dates, exits to permeant housing, destination zip codes, and recidivism.

Discussion: SPC members discussed the location of housing for minorities in our community who access the homeless system. Previous location may assist in identifying zip codes in the HMIS; the Stark County questions could ask where the participant is connected to services to determine location. Committee members discussed

that participants may be relocated away from their supports and may stop receiving and/or engaging in services because of geological location. The SPC discussed that RRH can offer up to six months of case management to participants and PSH can incorporate some questions in the exit interview to determine participant's additional needs.

Next steps:
Gather system level and project level data to see if there are any disparities. Jennifer proposed to do everything on the list provided for the OFHA funding and include length of time by race, household size, mental health and rental rates. For PSH and RRH, Jennifer proposed to continue to look at the 2018-2019 data for destination zip codes for households exiting to permanent destinations and to gather the data for length of time from assessment to lease-up.

Discussion: SPC members discussed the need to gather qualitative data. Initial thoughts would be to look at any disparities in services and identify the issues prior to gathering qualitative data. SPC also discussed those that have not spoken up about what is happening within their situation, such as mental health. The YWCA is spearheading a cultural inclusive project within their agency. ACF is re-evaluating Board members and discussing consumer representation on the Board. Focus groups with participants in different housing types could provide the necessary qualitative information; focus groups discussions similar to the ones Stark Housing Network, Inc. conducted for Coordinated Entry and Quality Assurance at emergency shelters. Marcie discussed compensation for focus group participants, but does not know what that may look like or how it would be funded. The SPC will meet in August to review the data and information pulled from the HMIS.

IV. Old Business/New Business
Marcie thanked guests Tiffany Ford and Dionna Stokes-Ellis for joining the meeting and invited them to join the August meeting for further discussion.

V. Adjournment With no further business to be discusses, the meeting adjourned.

Racial Equity Tool

Start Date: 10/1/2018 End Date: 9/30/2019

1-Who Experiences Homelessness?

Enter the unduplicated total number of people in HMIS for each racial and ethnic group below

White	African American	Native American	All Other Races	Total
1999	1745	18	535	*4297*
47%	41%	0%	12%	

Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Total
145	4152	*4297*
3%	97%	

2-Who Gets into Crisis Housing?

*Enter the total number of each group entering **Emergency Shelter***

White	African American	Native American	All Other Races	Total
366	289	3	125	*783*
47%	37%	0%	16%	

Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Total
35	748	*783*
4%	96%	

*Enter the total number of each group entering **Transitional Housing***

White	African American	Native American	All Other Races	Total
0	0	0	0	*0*
0%	0%	0%	0%	

Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Total
0	0	*0*
0%	0%	

3-Who Gets into Permanent Housing?

Enter the total number of exits to Permanent Housing from all project types by group

White	African American	Native American	All Other Races	Total
529	410	3	147	*1089*
49%	38%	0%	13%	

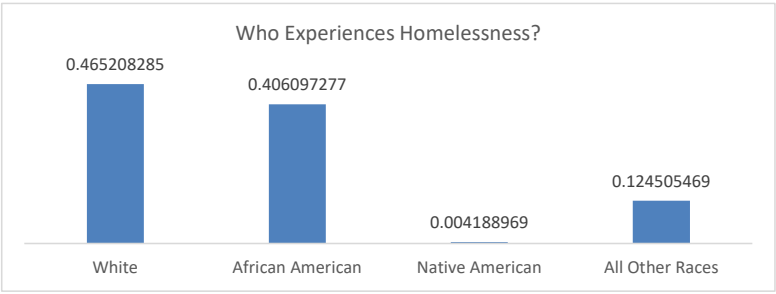
Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Total
29	1060	*1089*
3%	97%	

4-Who Returns to Homelessness?

Enter the total number of returns to homelessness by race below

White	African American	Native American	All Other Races	Total
81	82	0	24	*187*
43%	44%	0%	13%	

Hispanic	Not Hispanic	Total
3	184	*187*
2%	98%	


Who Experiences Homelessness?
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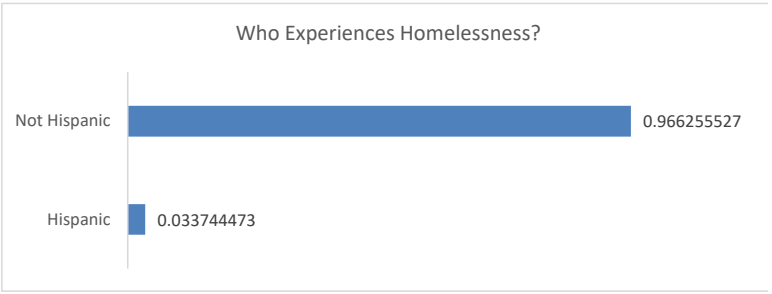
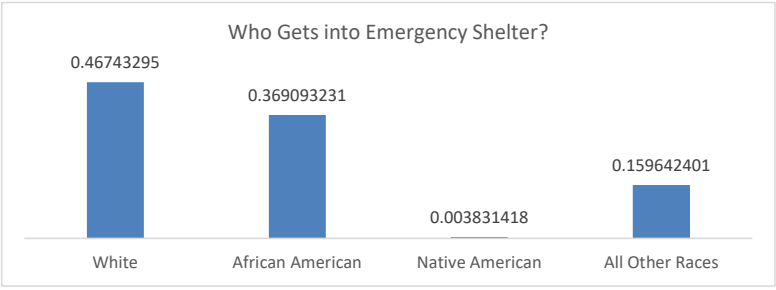
0.406097277
0.004188969
0.124505469
White
African American
Native American
All Other Races


Who Experiences Homelessness?
Not Hispanic
0.966255527
Hispanic
0.033744473


Who Gets into Emergency Shelter?
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0.003831418
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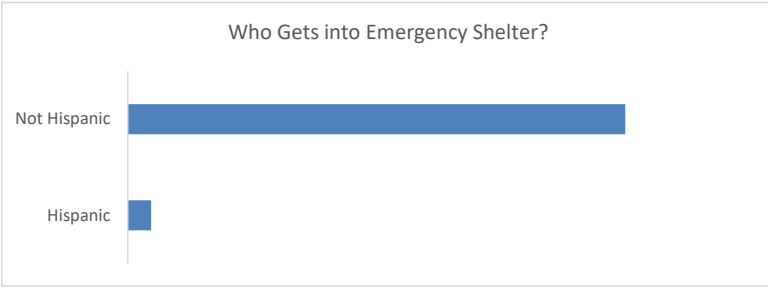
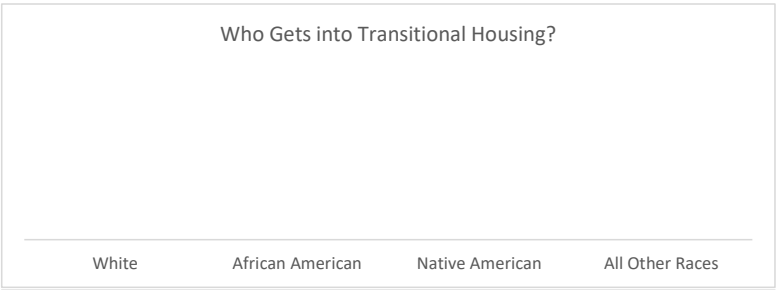
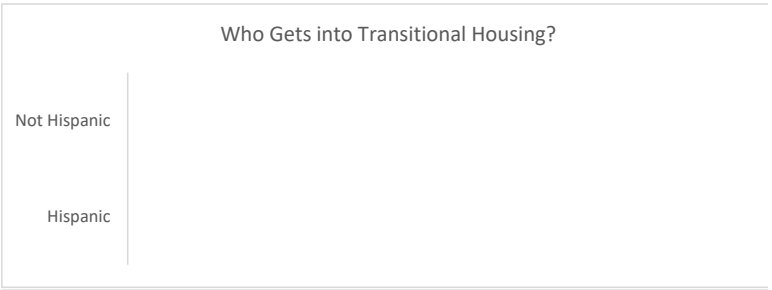
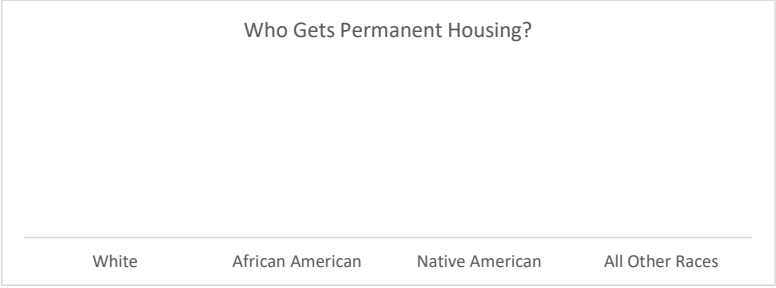
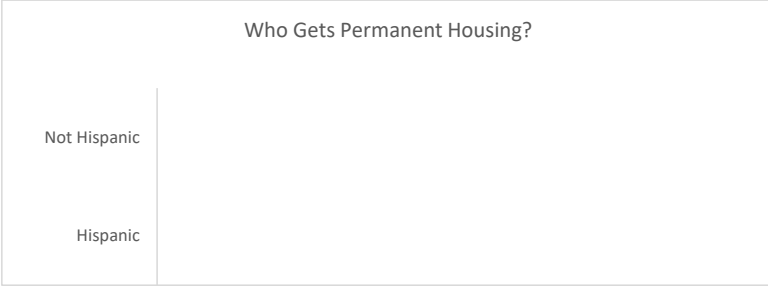
White
African American
Native American
All Other Races

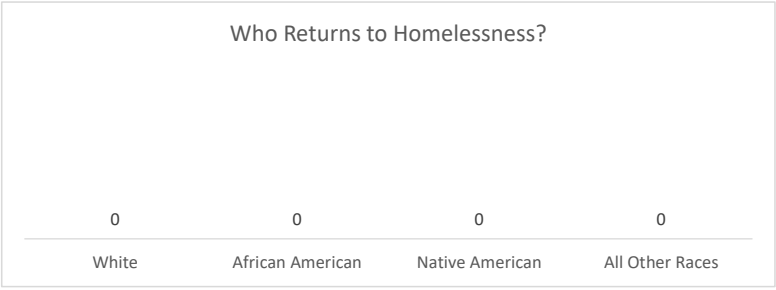

Who Gets into Emergency Shelter?
Not Hispanic
Hispanic

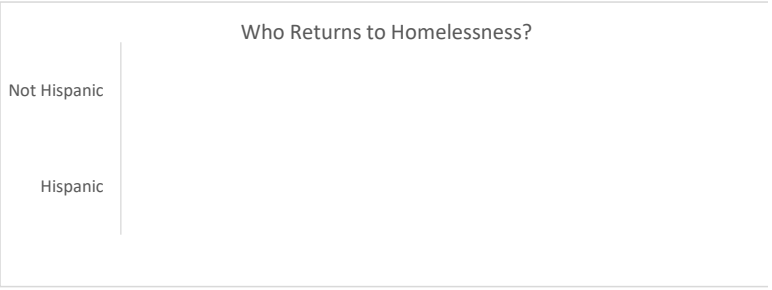

Who Gets into Transitional Housing?
White
African American
Native American
All Other Races


Who Gets into Transitional Housing?
Not Hispanic
Hispanic


Who Gets Permanent Housing?
White
African American
Native American
All Other Races


Who Gets Permanent Housing?
Not Hispanic
Hispanic


Who Returns to Homelessness?
0
0
0
0
White
African American
Native American
All Other Races


Who Returns to Homelessness?
Not Hispanic
Hispanic

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Racial Equity Data Discussion - Notes
July 21, 2020

Ohio Housing Finance Agency Funding ***Emergency Rental Assistance & Homeless Prevention*** Racial Demographic Data	HMIS/Provider Agency Data ***PSH & RRH*** Racial Demographic Data
• Intakes Completed • Placement on Prioritization List • Completion of Project Intake • Dollar Amount of Assistance Received • Returns to Homelessness	• Length of Time – Assessment to Lease-up • Exits to Permanent Destinations • Destinations (zip codes) • Returns to Homelessness